

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 11766 191439Z

43

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IGA-02 EB-11 AGR-20 COME-00 DRC-01

RSC-01 /078 W

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R 191013Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5211

UNCLAS BANGKOK 11766

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EARR-- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO FERTILIZER PRODUCTION

REF: BANGKOK 11573

1. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OBTAINED AT JULY 19  
MEETING MENTIONED REFTEL:

A. CHEMFERCO WENT INTO PRODUCTION SEVEN YEARS AGO WITH  
THEORETICAL CAPACITY OF ROUGHLY 90,000 TONS ANNUALLY OF WHICH  
ABOUT 60,000 TONS AMMONIUM SULFATE AND ABOUT 30,000 TONS  
UREA. PLANT INITIALLY REACHED NERRLY CAPACITY BUT DEMAND  
AT TIME VERY LOW BECAUSE FARMERS NOT FAMILIAR WITH AND  
DID NOT KNOW HOW TO USE THIS NON-COMPOUNDED FERTILIZER.  
AS A RESULT PLANT WAS CLOSED FOR NERARLY A YEAR, AN ACTION  
THAT CAUSED DETERIORATION FROM WHICH PLANT BELIVEVED TO BE  
STIL SUFFERING. PLANT HAS BEEN OPEATING UNTIL RECENTLY AT  
AS LOW AS 30 PERCENT CAPACITY BUT ANTICIPATE THIS FIGURE  
WILL SOON BE REAISEDTO 50 PERCENT. TOTAL EMPLOYEES  
CURRENTLY ABOUT 600.

B. STUDY BY TWO GERMAN TECHNIANS REPORTED REFTEL IS  
BEING REVIEWED AND ORDRS HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO APPLY AS  
FEASIBLE THE CORRECTIVE MEASURES SUGGESTED. #HOWEVER,  
BASIC PROBLEM DESCRIBED AS INABILITY TO INSTITUTE WHAT  
MIGHT BE DESCRIBED AS PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE. AS RESULT  
CONSTANT BREAK DOWNS OCCURE WITH CRITICAL REPARIS EFFECTED  
ONLY AS REQUIRED.

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 11766 191439Z

C. EMBASSY OFFICER AGAIN STRESSED. AND COMPANY OFFICIALS  
AGREED THAT IMPORTANT TO HAVE PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING AS  
POSSIBLE OF NATURE OF PROBLEM BEFORE FINAL DECISION MADE  
ON SENDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS FROM U.S. WAS ALSO GENERAL  
VIEW THAT GERMAN STUDY SHOULD BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL  
THIS RESPECT.  
KINTNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, FERTILIZER INDUSTRY, PRODUCTION, FERTILIZERS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BANGKO11766  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740195-0233  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740736/aaaabegg.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AID  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** BANGKOK 11573  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 FEB 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25 FEB 2002 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2003 by shawdg>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** EAID, EAGR, TH, US, GE, CHEMFERCO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005